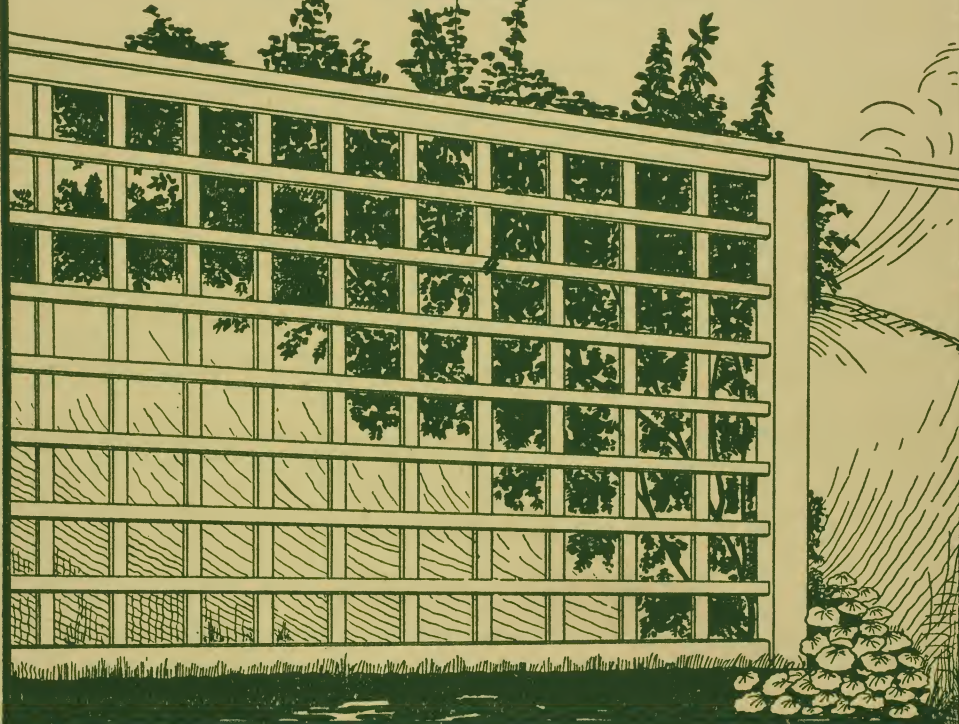


# CALIFORNIA GARDEN



Per Year  
One Dollar

SEPTEMBER, 1913

Per Copy  
Ten Cents

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Bulletin to County Schools in This Issue  
Agricultural School Contest  
September Gardens—Timely Garden Talks  
Fall Flower Show Next Month



## Growing *DATES* in San Diego County

Do you want to try to grow your own dates, so you can pick them fresh and clean and delicious from your own trees?

We have imported from the Persian Gulf countries some very choice varieties that mature their fruit early in the fall. These are well worthy of a thorough and careful "try-out" in the equable climate of San Diego County. We do not recommend them as a positive success for commercial date culture; but we do believe them worthy of your serious consideration for experimental work in the home garden. The palm trees will be desirable as ornamentals; and the successful fruiting of the varieties referred to should be a possibility in San Diego county.

These palms are imported as off-shoots, weighing from 15 to 45 lbs. each. They are two years old, or over. The Federal Quarantine Law requires that we hold them in the Coachella Valley, under the eye of the inspector for one year, in order that all scale insects may be eliminated. They are now established in nursery form 2 miles southeast of Thermal. Next spring we can deliver them as rooted palms. The price is \$10 each, as rooted palms; \$5 down, and \$5 at the time of delivery. A list of varieties will be furnished to those interested.

{ We are growers of all the valuable subtropical plants and trees that are suited to this climate, and shall be pleased to send you our catalogue. }

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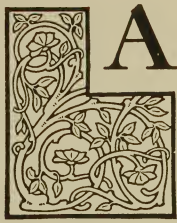
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be maintained. The Kodak Store, at Fifth and C, and  
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## Plant Now for Winter Blooming---

Some choice ferns and selected early bulbs just in. Plant your *Christmas Blooming Sweet Peas and Flower Seeds NOW*. September is a good month to sow the Vegetable Garden for winter. We have some extra fine *Feijoa Sellowiana*, which have such showy flowers and fine fruit. Also the beautiful *Romnea Coulteri*, or California Tree Poppy. A good line of Ornamental Plants, Rose Bushes and Palms.

## HARRIS SEED COMPANY

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Sales Yard, 7th St., just north of F.

1724 F Street, between 8th and 9th



# The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association*

*One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

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Vol. 5

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER, 1913

No. 3

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**T**HE City of San Diego is in that stage of its development called by the palmists "the Grand Climacteric", and perhaps its greatest need is a realization of this condition. For a city of its calibre any one of its three great problems would be sufficient to use its energies and strain its resources. We refer to the Water problem, the Harbor development and the Exposition, and they are placed in the order of their importance.

**E**VERY citizen admits that the water question must be taken care of, but only a few are willing to look at it from the view point of fifty years hence. Its discussion is usually concluded with, "I guess we had better get O'Shaughnessy back to tell us what to do," and though the remark is made half in jest, it is right good sense. This engineer has information about our water question that no man new to the conditions could acquire without the expenditure of much time and money, and his ability has not been questioned. Let San Diego acquire this knowledge as well as the water system the subject of it. The complications of fortifying the system, like the Panama Canal will probably disappear, when our country takes a stand that will make our border line a menace instead of a refuge to every hobo with a Mexican oath and a fire-arm. As the California Garden sees its office in this particular, it is one of urging no compromise with the situation. Face its problems and solve them, and refuse make-shifts.

**A**S to the Harbor question, the Garden admits ignorance, absolute ignorance, about caissons, long or short, and does not intend to enter the controversy, but it would like to see a Parking feature, at the foot of Broadway, become an accomplished fact. A San Diego lady, recently home from Rio de Janeiro, margins our Bay with palms every night in her dreams. We think of the water front at Naples with its aquarium and, shutting our eyes, do lovely things to the mud flats in our northern water. Henry Lord Gay has a scheme for that section that makes a garden man almost choke with saliva, but some folks' appetite calls for factory smoke. Thinking of the water front of Hamburg and other European ports and The Thames Embankment in London, we know that even if now we refuse to park and boulevard, our children will do it at infinite expense. In London today The Thames Embankment is being duplicated for three miles on the other side of the river by buying up ground at a price that would even move the title to the northwest corner of Fifth and Broadway. But we want to see and enjoy these wonderful things.

**O**UR Exposition goes its advertising way, absolutely ignoring the old saying that "comparisons are odious" measuring its progress by the stagnation of San Francisco, or is this merely the daily press. Have we arrived at such a stage of smallness that to point out our neighbor's shortcomings exalts our own merit. Another old saying crops up. "The fool points out the hole in the carpet but the angel covers it with his foot." The Garden would love to see San Diego be the angel. Both cities should be saints by their names, but saints, real ones, would be fearfully out of it in the modern advertising world, how-so-ever they may love the Garden.

# What to Do in September Gardens

## The Vegetable Garden

George P. Hall

Septimius was noted for his ambition and invaded Great Britain and built a wall on the north to keep back the Caledonians. He was no more ambitious than is the Autumn garden month that sets the sign for the growth of a productive garden for the winter months. Planting in September is very essential because the soil is yet touched by the full power of a brilliant sun in California. Plow or spade deep the soil and turn up to the surface the inert and untouched resources of the under soil. You have exploited the upper six inches and you should be generous enough to put back quite as much as you took away. Mother Nature is very generous with her supplies if you will only reach down after them, but shallow work in September will bring diminished production. Fertilize well and, if you are going to raise a large amount of root crops, put in nitrogen and phosphoric acid, in some form. If you plant peas, now, you will have them green for your Christmas feast. Plant Yorkshire Hero, Telephone, Gradus, and for the small kind use Dwarf Sugar—cooking pods like beans. Gradus will be sure to fill out well. Plant Kentucky Wonder beans, Ventura Wax and pole Limas. Plant onions, both seed and sets, cabbage, cauliflower, celery and beets. Egyptian Blood turnip gives about the right size for market and table. Also plant Oxheart Carrots. Parsnips and Kohl Rabi. Use the kind of radishes the market most demands; generally the small oval are favorites. You can get them red or white. If large overgrown ones are wanted, put in Chinese White. All the vegetables you plant in September will be ready for use and market in December. For tomatoes, egg plant, peppers and like tender plants, select a warm sheltered spot. Everybody ought to have a small lath house, or a large one, if you can make it, and have your choice of good things you like to have in summer. If you can add a few sash of glass in one corner—you can get early plants for market and then there is the hot bed you can make with fresh horse manure, that will give

excellent results, by covering at night when they are cool. It is time to trench for your rhubarb plants. Dig and fill in with manure and six inches of soil, then the roots, and you will have a fine setting of "barb." Plant fall bulbs, winter varieties of Sweet Peas, such as Mont Blanc, Earliest of All, Blanch Ferry and the earliest kinds of Watsonias, Freesias, and "Crow Cusses." Sow seed of stocks, cosmos, coreopsis in vases; centaurias, salpiglossis—velvet flower. Transplant the pansies sowed last month and if you did not sow any, do so now. All flowers like rich, finely pulverized beds to grow in. Do not insult them by putting them in some hard old still clay; they will not stand for it, so do not waste your time and seed.

It is the month to sow seed of all the eucalyptus, acacias, pines, arborvitae and cypress for hedges or ornamentation. The Monterey Cypress is one of the easiest grown and most useful of our trees. It can be trimmed into hedges or shaped into pyramids. It is hardy, standing neglect and drouth that puts all other trees to shame. Put good soil in the flais you sow the seed in and transplant to pots or cans before the roots reach the bottom of the box where seed is first sown.

Plant all the Dutch, Irish and Ethiopian bulbs you can rustle from the collection of your neighbors, then draw heavy on the seedsman.

Remember Mark Twain's advice: "Plant, plant with care, Plant in the face of the passenjair."

## The Flower Garden

Mary A. Matthews

September might well be called "The Month of Preparation," as everything in the garden line tends that way for the coming season. Soil should be gotten ready for the shrubs and bulbs, orders given to the Florists and Seedsman, lists made out of where and when to plant, stock taken of last year's failures so as to correct them this year. Many things may be done that seem almost useless these dry and scorching days, but go over your garden, no matter whether it is large or small,



and if you look carefully you will find that "Mother Nature" is already getting ready for the spring display. Shrubs that for weeks have looked almost lifeless begin to show life; new buds are swelling ready to break into leaf at the first sign of cooler days and rain. In a border, well protected, *Oxalis Bowiei*, with large clover like leaves and clusters of clear rose flowers, is beginning to show growth. Along a trench where the water runs frequently Chinese *Narcissus* are ready to break ground. Self-sown *Larkspur*, *Mignonette*, *Fox gloves*, *Campanula* and *Pinks* are coming up. Sweet Peas planted not long ago are up, all showing that a new season will soon begin. The winter and spring garden is largely a thing of shrubs and bulbs, but what a variety of color, form and fragrance is possible. Here as a general thing we do not have a great variety of bulbs in our gardens, and as to shrubs that can be grown for early blooming the variety is bewildering. A good rule to remember is that what blooms in the spring ought to be planted in the fall.

*Watsonias* are one of our choicest things for decoration in the bulbous line, and though they have acted very queerly this past season (having been cut back after the freeze) have made new growth and are only through blooming now. In some places this is or should be their dormant season. They should go into the ground this month and as a word of caution plant home-grown bulbs. Those procured elsewhere are never available soon enough for this section and cost about as much again per dozen. Continue planting early blooming *Narcissus*, *Jonquills*, *Sparaxis* and *Ixias*. Callas will need a good loosening of the soil, some heavy fertilizer and thorough soaking. Where you can keep the soil moist continue to plant winter blooming annuals; where perennials are growing in the seed boxes it would be well to defer transplanting if possible till cooler weather. Put in another lot of pansy seeds.

In the border keep all dead blooming stalks cut off except what you have saved for seed; anything for late blooming will need to be kept moist and the soil stirred. Don't go deep enough to disturb the roots. A formula given me by an expert for a commercial fertilizer to produce a quick growth in bedding plants and bulbs was: Two pounds of nitrate of soda, two pounds of muriate of potash and ten pounds of

bone meal, all to be well mixed, then a handful to be worked in around the plants with the trowel and thoroughly watered in. I have not as yet used it, but expect to with plants of quick growth; should think it would be successful, but use plenty of water for fear of burning.

Don't forget the *Chrysanthemum* or anything else you can bring on for the fall show. *Chrysanthemums* especially will need daily care, watering, disbudding, keeping down suckers, etc. When spraying overhead let it be done in the cool of the evening.

Speaking of shrubs, try some of the newer tropical ones. See what the home nursery people have; get catalogues from the growers of these things and read the fascinating descriptions and you will surely want a few of them. Many of them are evergreen, and numbers of them besides being ornamental bear fruits. Trying new things is stimulating, as it keeps us out of the rut of just the same things every one else has.

The last of this month ought to be a good time to start an Herb Garden, *Lavender*, *Rosemary*, *Balm*, *Anise*, *Coriander*, *Sweet Marjaram*, *Thyme*, *Sage* and many others can be started from cuttings, seeds or rooted plants. The seeds of some of these take months to come up so time will be saved by buying well rooted plants; most of these can be grown in the hardy border or they can be planted in a little plot to themselves. Herb gardens are very much in vogue just now spoken of as new, though I've seen lately a "Gardener's Kalender" gotten out in 1802 where directions are given for growing plants to put in "Ye Gardens of Scents", which goes to show there is nothing new under the sun, even in the horticultural line; this same book refers frequently to the "Belvedere", this is the *Kochia* or "Summer Cypress" of today.

## Thirsty Plants

In a Garden talk, Mr. E. O. Amundsen said: "The amount of water to be used must be left to the good judgment of the gardener. No set rules can be formulated to guide the novice. After a little experience and observation one can ascertain when to apply water. If the soil a few inches below the surface is so dry that it does not hold together when squeezed into a ball in the hand, water is needed.

# Timely Garden Talks

## The Dahlia

A. D. Robinson

There are many complaints of seedling dahlias dying off after they have been transplanted into their permanent quarters and it is a way they have in common with the so-called green plants, really rooted cuttings, from the nursery men. In view of the extraordinary vitality of the self-sown seedlings, which come up and persist in most unkind places, this dying off of the elect is very aggravating. In a case in mind the seedlings were put out from flats and these shallow receptacles had caused the roots and incipient tubers to grow sideways, so that they suffered considerable injury in being taken out. Another disadvantage of the shallow growing was that it limited the depth of planting in the open, and kept the young and tender roots in the hot top soil; a very great handicap to a plant like the dahlia. Most of the green plants are pot grown, which also keeps the planting shallow. If this be the real cause of the trouble the remedy would lie in using deeper flats or preferably the Grant paper pots, which certainly are most successful with many other growths. It is quite possible to select dahlia seed, so that almost every one will grow and the seed might be planted in the Grant pots in the first place. Commonly the dahlia seedlings are coddled too much.

It is quite possible to grow dahlias from cuttings made of the young shoots springing from the side of the main stalks. In an experiment with these it was found that the only ones that grew were those which were taken right from the junction of the shoot and the main stem, leaving a kind of butt. Not one without this butt lived. The cuttings were put in sand, kept quite wet and shaded with a newspaper. This is worth trying where one has a seedling one desires to cultivate.

Very few people give their dahlias frequent enough overhead sprinklings. This should be done in the evening and might be two or three times a week with advantage.

Most seedling dahlias improve in size and color their second year when they have a tuber to push them. Remember

this when you are selecting those you wish to keep.

If your seedling dahlias are planted close, pull out the poor ones as they bloom and give the better more leeway.

Most dahlias in the vicinity look starved for both meat and drink. Feed yours any fertilizer, water religiously and watch the improvement.

Mrs. Darling of Chula Vista has a bed of seedling dahlias that are worth going to see, and they form a remarkable testimonial to the seed that the California Garden is giving as a premium.

It is getting pretty late to cut dahlias right back, expecting a new top, but the flowering season can be immensely prolonged by keeping off all seed pods.

## Planting Seed

As this is the time when many seeds of very small calibre should be planted, such as cineraria, calceolaria, primula, petunia, etc.; a few directions as to the method of sprouting and growing them are given again. The very small seed, such as calceolaria, should be sown on the top (not covered) of a shallow box or pan of soil, finely sifted and thoroughly moistened, then the whole box covered with a piece of glass and a newspaper over that. A window shelf facing south is a good place when a conservatory is lacking. In most cases the seed will sprout without intermediate watering, if the soil is well saturated to start with. If watering be necessary, place the whole box in a pan of water and let the moisture soak up from the bottom; don't sprinkle the surface. These small seeds must never dry out. The soil to use is leaf mold, sifted of course through window screen, or any loam that will not run together with watering. After the seedlings start, take off newspaper and glass, but don't let the sun bake these very tender things. They sprouted on the top of the soil and their roots have barely any hold. As soon as practicable, prick out into similar boxes and soil.

Any box about three inches deep, with drainage, will do to raise seed. If made about a foot square of half inch redwood, they will last a long time and are conven-



ient to handle, being big enough for the ordinary seed package. The grocery always has good seed boxes for the asking, if you pay your bills, which of course you do.

## The Lath House

You have not been into our lath house for some time, but with daily waterings, often two a day, when it was extra hot, things have been doing finely. The moose horn fern, *Platycerium Grandis*, is growing a magnificent pair of antlers, the first for four years. Last time it only managed one, and the stag horn, *P. Aleicorne*, is immense. This is mentioned to call attention to the fact that this strange family of ferns is not difficult of culture with us. The specimens above referred to have hung in a lath house with no care, but watering, for seven years, winter and summer. They were untouched by the frost of the spring that massacred hardy growths like the *Nephrolepis*, right beside them, and they are always on dress parade. There are seven or eight of the family.

Tuberous begonias are still blooming finely. Keep the seed pods off, give liquid fertilizer and they will keep it up right into the fall. They like the earth around them damp. You should be growing some cineraria from seed for the lath house. Those at the Mission Cliff Gardens last winter showed that we can have them. They come readily from seed and under lath will probably seed themselves. Get the best seed you can, as they have been much improved of late. The plants should be put right in the ground.

If you want some violets they should go in at once; the sooner the better. Try a few doubles, white and purple.

## How to Cook Plants and Trees

G. T. Keene

I can tally up one more valuable experience, and all on account of a load of manure. Some super-sensitive people might consider such a subject in "bad odor", but the gardener looks upon this by-product of barnyard or dairy as one of his best friends.

The load that the dairyman dumped off at our back door, and collected five plunks for, was so dry and innocent looking that

I spread it on and spaded it in with a lavish hand. "For once," says I, "these trees and plants are going to have a square meal." They did; and as a result several of them have the gout, or dyspepsia or something equally disquieting.

I didn't know, until afterwards, that just because manure is dry, is no sign it has lost its strength. There is evidently a difference between sundried and rotted manure.

Some of the garden folks spruced up wonderfully, and began to send out all kinds of green shoots. I was so elated with the results that in a week or so I gave them another banquet. In a short time I noticed some of the plants didn't seem to be filled with exuberance. Their little leaves began to turn brown around the edges. At first I thought they had been allowed to get thirsty, then concluded maybe I had watered them too much, and found other gardeners who agreed with me both ways.

Finally, one of my neighbors, who is one of those 5 a. m. to 7 p. m. gardeners, and who makes a personal friend of every little green thing on the ranch, broke the news to me. I had burned 'em up with double strength fertilizer put too close to their tender roots. By the time the bitter truth was known, Master Taft Avocado, one of West India Gardens' best, and my particular pride, had shed all his clothes and seemed determined to turn up his toes. I dug the manure away from his roots, flooded him with clear water, hoping to wash the fluid extract beyond reach, and put sand in its stead as a sort of neutralizing cordial. Having done that much to atone for my blunder, I am now busily engaged in watching and waiting for some sign of recuperation.

## A CANYON BOULEVARD.

Residents on the upper end of Hawley Street are working on a proposition to have their street made into a boulevard, to connect with the one to start from India Street and run up through "Brickyard" canyon. It is generally understood that when this boulevard is completed a branch car line will follow this canyon tapping Marine View and much virgin territory now almost inaccessible. This line will also probably save these canyons from a class of houses generally considered undesirable, and make of them pretty residence sections.

MARKED COPY

# The Rudiments of Gardening

Bulletin No. 1, Issued under Direction of Prof. H. J. Baldwin, County Superintendent of Schools  
Watch for these Monthly Bulletins in California Garden

## Some First Principles

By GEORGE P. HALL

President Little Landers Colony, San Ysidro, Cal.

**Note:**—These Bulletins will be issued monthly for the benefit of the Public Schools, and will be written in plain, simple language suitable to the comprehension of the pupils of the grammar school grades; and if technical terms are used they will be explained or their equivalent given in common terms. Scientific terms are some times essential, but they will be used only when no others can be substituted.

### INTRODUCTION.

**Question.** What is Agriculture?

**Answer.** The science that tells us how to cultivate the soil and to raise farm crops and animals.

**Q.** What is the difference between Agriculture and Horticulture?

**A.** Agriculture deals with the knowledge of raising in the soil, vegetation necessary for food for man and animals; Horticulture treats of the growth of trees and shrubs.

### SOIL.

**Q.** What is soil and how is it classified?

**A.** Soil is the combination of elements produced from rocks ground down by the help of rains, floods, frosts, heat and exposure. It contains in varying quantities the elements that plants require so as to grow and furnish food, and seed for successive crops; there are many of these elements but the most important are Nitrogen, Phosphoric acid and Potash. Others will be mentioned in Bulletins to follow. Soil is called warm or cold: compact or loose. Warm soil is generally composed largely of sand or of volcanic substances that make it easy for plants to penetrate and grow in it. Soils are called loams, which have a sufficient admixture of stiff soils to make them more compact and consequently more retentive of moisture. Clay, adobe and muck-soils are usually cold and if not changed by the mixture of light, warm soil will not produce as well as the warmer soils for very many plants. It is essential to know what your plant needs to do its best, so you can change the soil to suit its demands, as will be shown in future lessons.

### SEED.

**Q.** What is meant by Seed?

**A.** Seed is the vital germ every plant, shrub, tree or vine produces, in order to continue on the process of extending the life of its kind. As in animal life, so with vegetable life, the vital principle is enclosed in the seed; so small—as in the case of the mustard or the pansy and many others—as hardly to be known from a grain of sand. This vital germ contains the concealed life of the future plant and retains its vitality in some instances

for several years, but seed becomes devitalized by exposure, dampness or lack of care. It should be protected from harm until it is placed in the soil just at the right time and under the proper condition to cause it to germinate—start to grow—and produce food for sustaining human and animal life.

### WATER.

**Q.** Will seed grow and produce if the soil is not properly and judiciously watered?

**A.** No. Water is quite as essential as soil. There are but few plants that will thrive unless given their required amount of moisture. Some plants, like the waterlily, live entirely in water, while the cactus and kindred relations live with but a very little moisture. Water not only softens the hard soil so the plant can extend its roots—plants feed with their roots largely—but it takes down elements from the air that give nourishment, the rains carry down solvents in the form of acids that dissolve other elements locked up in the soil so much needed by the plant and which it cannot get till the fairy rain drop goes down and unlocks the door that hides it. Water, like soil, is full of small living creatures that work to do the will of the divine plan of Nature. Men are storing up water in great reservoirs to use in the semi-arid regions—places where but little rain falls—and will run the water to the thirsty soil and make the desert a place where food in abundance will be produced.

### SUN.

**Q.** What part does the sun play in the production of food from plants?

**A.** It is equally as important as the other factors. Soil and water for plants must have warmth and light. Darkness means coldness and death. As we travel away from the tropics, where there is perpetual warmth, the vegetation differs in form and luxuriance, until reaching the far northern polar regions, only a few lichens can endure the desolation of the cold tundras that are wind swept and desolate. The sun is the imparter of vitality, and without its genial influence on vegetation death to all the inhabitants of earth would soon ensue.

### CULTIVATION.

**Q.** What is meant by cultivation of the soil?

**A.** The proper application of methods to stir the soil and keep it in a condition so that the plant can do its best. The soil must neither be muddy nor baked hard. Both conditions are destructive to nearly all plant life if permitted to continue, except to such plants as are specifically designed for endurance under abnormal conditions. All vegetation that produces food either by its leaves, roots or its grain must receive considerate stirring of the soil for the double reason of keeping the physical condition perfect and for the destruction of noxious weeds that would



take the nourishment from the useful plant. Cultivation drives out the burglars of the soil and opens the soil so the next greatest requisite can be accomplished, namely the

### AERATION OF THE SOIL.

Q. What is meant by aeration of the soil?

A. Aeration is keeping the soil so loose on the surface that air can penetrate down and carry with it the nitrogen content so essential, an element the most expensive of all those required by the plant. It means keeping the soil so friable at the surface that the escape of moisture is prevented by breaking up the capillary action. Put a rag in a dish of water and let one end be in the water and the other hang out side and the water will travel up the rag and empty the basin. This illustrates the principle of capillary action in the hard unstirred soil which drains all the moisture away and makes the surface baked and dry.

### PLANTING FOR SEPTEMBER.

September is essentially one of the most important planting months in all locations where at no time during the year the ther-

mometer will register down to the freezing point.

In the vegetable garden, plant onion sets, Yorkshire Hero peas, Canadian and Ventura wax beans, cabbage, cauliflower, celery and roots of rhubarb, Little Bantam sweet corn. All planted now will come by the end of December. Plant bulbs of Freesias, Watsonia and other fall bulbs that you expect to bloom early.

For winter blooming sow seed of pansies, cosmos, coreopsis, centaureas. Sweet peas, sown in September, will bloom by Christmas. Roses you wish to have bloom in winter should be watered in September. Sow pine and cypress seed this month.

The monthly Bulletin will give list for each month's planting.

Rule for planting seeds.—Cover three times the depth of their size, keep surface moist, shade from hot sun with cloth or brush which will give partial shade. Be careful in watering not to pour on a heavy stream as to disturb the sprouting seed. Sprinkle at night till plants are half an inch high, then begin to transplant from the seed bed.

## Agricultural School Contest

Part of Bulletin No. 1—Edited by W. T. Skilling

To the Trustees, Teachers and Pupils of the Schools of San Diego County:

As a continuation of the successful agricultural contest last year the following plans are suggested for work this year.

1. The chief object aimed at this year will be the beautifying of the school grounds.

2. All subjects relating to agriculture about the home will be made a second part of the contest..

3. The prizes will be as follows:

First. To the school making the greatest change in the appearance of grounds and buildings by the addition of trees and flowers, the cultivation of those already growing, the improvement of walks, fences outbuildings, playgrounds, school gardens, etc.

Second. For letters by the children on topics suggested below.

4. All letters should be addressed to Wm. T. Skilling, State Normal School, San Diego.

The following topics may be covered by the letters throughout the year:

1. The general improvement of the school grounds.

2. The school garden work being done.

3. Home gardens.

4. Any work on the farm in which children are interested and take a part, telling especially the part taken by the writer.

5. House work done by the girls as progress in learning to cook, sew, put up fruit, etc.

6. Special matters of interest, such as the kinds, uses and manner of growth of medicinal plants of a neighborhood; the poisonous plants and how they appear; animal pests, such as gophers, coyotes, and snakes and how destroyed; birds and how they build their nests and the harm or good they do.

7. Any special kinds of crops grown in a

community and methods of raising, and special kinds of machinery used on the farm with some description of their advantages; as for example, cream separators, disc plows, hillside plows, seeders, harvesters, etc.

8. Breeds of stock and poultry and the relative merits of each.

9. Description of work in which the children have a part for the social well being of the community, such as clubs, debates, singing or spelling schools, sabbath schools and churches.

It is suggested that teachers make use of these letters as a part of the regular composition work and that the usual corrections for such work be made upon them before sending.

The letters which are considered best will be published.

The points upon which the letters will be judged are:

(a) Clearness and correctness of English.

(b) How interesting the letter is.

(c) The amount and kind of effort the pupil has made in doing or learning the things of which he writes.

In addition to the prizes offered the schools making the greatest improvement in appearance of grounds, all those making successful efforts in this line will receive the commendation of the committee in charge.

It is recommended that kodak pictures be taken when work is begun and again near the close of the school year showing improvements made.

In order that small schools shall have an equal chance with the larger ones the relative amount of improvement and not the actual appearance at the close of the year will be considered by the committee in awarding the prizes to schools.

# From Roses to Immigrants

## The Rose

If you have been resting your roses by withholding water, and desire a crop of bloom this fall, you should irrigate at the middle of September, and when you are at it, make a thorough job. According to circumstances will the method be. Where beds are large, a slow, trickling stream running for a whole day is good practice. If basins must be resorted to, make them as large as possible and fill several times, say half a dozen. It is distinctly advisable to thoroughly wet up the ground in the vicinity not merely just round the bush, because it is next to impossible to keep a small area wet that is surrounded by dry soil. The latter acts like a sponge.

A pruning similar to that practised in the spring is indicated, but of a less severe character, and it is a safe proposition to put this off till the buds begin to push. All dead wood can be removed at once. Don't apply any fertilizer till the bushes begin to grow vigorously, and then be careful not to cause indigestion. If you are figuring on making cuttings this fall you will have to do your pruning with this in mind, as they should be made from well ripened wood.

If you have a Dorothy Perkins that mildewed badly and have not acted on our advice of July, to cut it right down and carefully burn the wood, do it now. It is not simply for its own sake but because mildew spreads badly. A Dorothy hedge that failed to make a good showing in June, and received considerable water because of another crop being exploited in front of it, has been perfectly glorious with bloom all August, and has done much to put the lady in good grace again.

An old Cherokee hedge, single white, has come up for treatment. It had died back very severely, large limbs going right to the main trunk, and here and there vigorous shoots were pushing. It was recommended to cut back to these shoots, which would remove three-fourths of the hedge, water freely and give fertilizer. This hedge had never been trained low enough, and it cannot be urged too strongly to al-

ways keep a rose hedge low. It will get up in spite of you. This case is chiefly referred to in order to point out the advantage of allowing some shoots to go to the ground and root, as they will like layers. This will automatically renew a hedge.

Standard roses budded on *rosa canina*, that have been before mentioned, have continued to do remarkably well all summer. In order to get a good growth of wood to facilitate pruning to a good head this fall, they have been watered every two weeks and fertilized with a little guano from Lower California every four weeks. The guano was just sown on the surface after irrigating and before cultivating. Perhaps the most floriferous has been General McArthur, which is full of bloom even at this writing, the last week of August, right in the hot weather, but Joseph Hill has been most remarkable. Ever a shy bloomer, it has forgotten that habit, and strange to say, has come deeper and deeper in color till now it might be mistaken for a Lyon. The Lyon has not exceeded expectation and is not blooming at all now, nor has it for two months. The growth has been fair.

For good shape General McArthur is decidedly the best. Georges Schwartz, the wonderful yellow that lacks so in vigor, was budded as a standard last May, and the buds have grown far better than any bush of the same variety. The experimenter hopes to start a large number of climbing Cecil Brunners this fall, with the idea of using them as standard stock.

## EXTRACTS FROM "A BOOK ABOUT ROSES" BY DEAN HOLE.

Gloire de Dijon is the best of climbing roses for general culture in England. It is the mother of Reve d'Or, Reine Marie Henriette, La Belle Lyonnaise and Madame Berard.

Cloth of Gold or Chromatella is a seedling from La Marque.

"More than thirty years ago, Mr. Fortune sent over from China climbing roses, one of which was called 'Fortune's Yellow'. Mr. Fortune described it as most

striking in its own country, with flowers 'yellowish-salmon and bronze-like;' and it has also been described as being covered with large, loose flowers of every shade between a rich, reddish buff and a full coppery pink, but it has not received the attention in England that it deserves."

This is the rose that we here know as "Beauty of Glazenwood" and often call "Gold of Ophir."

This Beauty of Glazenwood happened to be planted about twenty years ago at Redlands, California, in some quantity, and there flourished so well that other sections began to take notice of it and today it is one of the most popular roses grown in Southern California. It is often called the "Pasadena Rose," the "San Rafael Rose," being so popular and conspicuous in these cities of flowers. It is a greater success when at least ten miles away from the sea. It is one of the best climbing roses for general planting throughout the country, and in San Diego it needs a warm and sheltered spot and a chance to grow wild over shed roof or some old tree. It does better with little trimming.

### **EUCALYPTUS FICIFOLIA.**

In the garden of the Bishop's School at Redwood and First Streets, there is a *Eucalyptus ficifolia* of unusual brilliancy—the real rich dark scarlet. It is well worth a visit to see. This particular *Eucalyptus* does not produce seed that comes true to color, the blossom varying from almost white, through many shades of light pink and salmon pink, also scarlet and its variations. The tree needs to be three years old before blooming and showing its color, so it will pay to set out several close together, and when they bloom save the best one and destroy the others.

Occasionally a tree will bloom in a pot and I had one two weeks ago in a six-inch pot, color a light pink with salmon tones.

That January frost was severe on *Eucalyptus ficifolia*, and we shall need to work very hard to get this beautiful variety more generally planted and established and get many of the more rarely colored ones. These trees will pay for themselves if necessary because the flowers have a commercial value for florists' use in decorations. Only a few favorable

climates can grow these trees and to the world in general they are very rare.

### **THE DRY FARM AND THE EMIGRANT**

The air is full of rumors of what the Panama Canal will bring to San Diego. Among others, that anywhere from fifty to one hundred thousand tickets have been sold on the installment plan by steamship companies. Presumably this army is of the usual emigrant class that lands in New York in countless hords with an average of twenty-five dollars. In a recent letter in our daily press reference was made to this imminent invasion and a hint thrown out that our back country under dry farming methods would provide a living for this multitude. While not questioning the wonderful merit of this mode of cultivation, it is evident that its success is dependent on conditions that do not pertain in the great majority of the tens of thousands of acres that lie so picturesquely undisturbed in San Diego County.

Imperial county lands are not to be had by the man with resources of only twenty-five dollars. Reference was also made to the fact that these emigrants are of the farming class, but knowledge of agricultural methods in Southern Europe is a handicap to successful practice in California, with the exception, perhaps, of Spain, and it would be a pitiful sight to see an exponent of Spain's tenth century methods striving to make a living in this up-to-date world. It is comforting to the man who has tried farming in San Diego under any method to believe that the great Western Coast holds much territory more suited to the needs of the invaders than San Diego, and also that the invaders are probably so informed.

### **FLOWERS.**

These flowers, stunted and denied,  
I planned to flourish, glorified.  
The air was cool, and Spring was new,  
I planted them, and as they grew  
I took of them no further care.  
I planted them—and left them there  
Yet I believed, I know not why,  
My flowers would grace and beautify  
The garden spot I placed them in.  
Yet, now, distorted, dwarfed and pale,  
Neglect declares its bitter tale,  
And I convict me of my sin.  
So human flowers planted, fade,  
That cherished might all time pervade  
With blessings flowers yet to be;  
And this reflection dwells with me.

—A. C. McQuilkin, Inland Printer.



THE THIRD OF A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON

# The City Beautiful

By V. O. WALLINGFORD

I have sought to show in the first two papers, that the City Beautiful, so far as we as individual gardeners and home builders are concerned, is not so much a matter of some big endeavor with much notoriety, as it is one of making our own little premises a beauty spot, and thus influencing our neighbor, to his and our own good.

Hoping always that we may be able to exercise good taste, and avoid inharmonious and incongruous, combinations or contrasts.

A thing that is foremost in my attention this month, is one that needs the whole community to deal with, and also demands a heavy pressure from public opinion.

It is the matter of the "violent" advertising, that defaces and encumbers every vista of the landscape except Balboa Park, and affronts the intelligence and reason of every visitor to the city. The citizens are probably quite accustomed to it now and do not notice.

I have no objection to the signs that offer property for sale. They are a matter of business that are so characteristic of California, that even the visitors do not particularly observe them, and they proclaim our chief industry.

But if we allowed ourselves and our guests to believe that our other industries are those proclaimed by the billboards, we must be much given to the drinking of liquor, chewing of gum, taking medicine and going to vaudeville shows.

Billboard crusades have been waged from one end of the country to the other, and in many places with beneficial results—to the community.

We are soon to have a clean-up day, when every householder, and lot owner or tenant, will be expected to clear the premises of rubbish, dead growth and portable unsightliness.

I wish I might hope that the billboards were among the things that would be considered unsightly.

A thing has happened down in the best part of the business district that really brings forth this protest at this time,

though I believe it to be always pertinent.

A beautiful new building, well designed and proportioned, and a credit to the architects and to the corner it occupies, is now made to bear on its top two immense metal frames and the skeletons of what are by night luminous tidings of a thrifty business.

It is a shame, to the corner and to the building. It is no credit to the city that we illumine and illuminate at the expense of the dignity and beauty of our improving architecture.

And now, having relieved my mind of these burdens, and being down town, I have some other things to speak of regarding the beauty (not always apparent) of our city.

I look out from my sixth story office window, and my landscape includes the High School with a background of trees on the hill beyond; the Park with upwards of a dozen of the Exposition buildings in various stages of completion; the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Street hill with a pleasant distribution of foliage and homes; the Grant Hotel and beyond that the Bay and Point Loma.

It is a very beautiful outlook, providing I am charitable enough to look over, and overlook the foreground.

Near at hand there are a collection of roofs, bad enough of themselves, but endurable except that they are cluttered with galvanized-iron smoke pipes, extensions of plumbing pipes, wires and "temporary" trestles, some lumber and two or three nail-kegs.

"Clean-up Day" may not reach these.

Also very near to the other features of the view just mentioned, I have the misfortune to look over into the yards back of some of the first buildings built in San Diego, where there are boxes, barrels, and long disused out-buildings in profusion.

And the third protest I have against the foreground of my landscape is one against the treatment and finish of the sides and rear of the business buildings of the city.

We have ornamented and garnished our fronts with the best we could buy, but we have affronted our neighbors by turning

to them the bare uncouthness of our unornamented and unornamental backs.

Three of the new buildings of the city, and a fourth now under construction, while they are not treated with ornament on the back as they are on the front, have been given a pleasing finish with regard for the effect when seen from other than the front sides. And I am assured by the

architects that the additional expense was negligible.

A coating of white greatly improves the sides and rear of buildings where no stucco finish has been or can be, applied, and to a considerable extent tones the cheapness of the look that tile or common-brick may have.

## Other Folkse's Gardens

### Raising "Show 'Mums"

H. E. Sies is laying great stress on the coming Fall Flower Show, to be given about the middle of October. He has 3,000 plants of about 300 varieties and says they never looked better, and the prospects were never brighter for a great exhibition than this year. In order to guard against any "unusual" weather, which might tend to spoil the blooms at the last minute, he is covering a large portion of his field with muslin. About half will be in the open and half under cover. He also has about 300 Rosecroft seedling dahlia plants and is expecting to make a great showing with them. Mr. Sies intimated that he had another exhibit up his sleeve, but it is to be a surprise and he'd "bust" before he'd give away the deep, dark secret. Anyway, he is hoping the association will secure a place big enough for him to spread himself.

### University Agricultural Courses.

The University of California, through its College of Agriculture, now offers a three years' course in Agriculture, besides six different Farmers' Short Courses, for the benefit of farmers whose time is limited. Full particulars are given in prospectuses issued by the University, which may be secured for the asking.

### A General Invitation.

The Garden again extends to all out of town floral associations, or clubs which hold flower exhibitions, a general and sweeping invitation to make use of this magazine for the purposes of announcing their regular meetings and exhibitions, and accounts of their proceedings. By such co-operation we can be of mutual benefit.

### Floral Advertising.

In France, advertisers can no longer place board signs along the railways, or, at any rate, the tax has made it prohibitive, so the advertisers have taken to planting flowers of brilliant hue to spell out the names of the products they wish to advertise.

### Large Crops Reported Abroad.

Cablegrams from the International Institute of Agriculture, at Rome, Italy, tell of bumper crops of grain throughout Europe and Asia. In many countries the increase over last year's crops is quite substantial.

Grain crops throughout the Northwest are said to be fully up to the average this year.

An artesian well is reported from Otay. Let us hope its flow is water and not just printers' ink.

E. Moulie, of Jacksonville, Fla., is planning on making a new perfume from San Diego rose petals, when he takes up his residence here in another year. Mr. Moulie has made himself famous as an originator and manufacturer of perfume, and is the man who put the soapnut tree in San Diego.

*V. O. Wallingford*  
*Architect*

623 Timken Building  
San Diego, California

## The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor  
G. T. Keene, Manager

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

### The San Diego Floral Association

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#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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### SEPTEMBER MEETING

*The Floral Association will meet Thursday evening, Sept. 18, at Mrs. Anna E. Clough's, 1532 Thirtieth St. Take No. 2 car. Come out and help arrange for the Fall Flower Show.*

### August Meeting

The Floral Association is greatly indebted to Mrs. C. W. Darling for a delightful afternoon spent at her Chula Vista home August 21.

Nearly fifty members made the trip in autos and by the electric cars, and were shown over the well-kept little ranch, from the flower gardens to the orange grove. The heavily-laden peach trees had been relieved of some of their load by the time the members had sampled, approved and passed on.

After serving punch on the veranda, the formal part of the meeting was held in the parlors, President L. A. Blochman occupying the chair. The principal talk was made by Mr. Wm. Donald, who is superintending the laying out and planting of the spacious grounds around three handsome country residences adjoining the Darling place. The homes have just been erected for Messrs. Belmer, Bradley and Roome, and no dividing line tells where one estate begins and the others end.

Mr. Donald was formerly with the Olm-

sted Bros., landscape architects, and will shortly resume relations with them as their California representative. He gave an interesting and instructive talk about the laying out and planting of grounds and gardens.

Particular stress was laid upon the right location of buildings so as to give the best view, and also duly considering the relative size of the house and grounds.

Grading is often very expensive because of the hardpan lying under the subsoil. The topsoil must be removed to some convenient place and the hardpan taken out to the desired grade, when the topsoil is replaced to an even depth. It is a grave mistake to level off the ground and grade under the rich topsoil.

If large trees are to be planted, dig a big hole perhaps six feet wide and three feet deep, and before planting anything have the soil properly prepared using plenty of lime and fertilizer. It is well to pulverize the fertilizer and let the ground lay before planting until all the weeds have had an opportunity to sprout and come up. When high enough, cut them all off, and then when the lawn is planted there will be but little trouble with the undesirables.

There is great chance for the display of good judgment in laying out roads and drives, and there is nothing prettier than a nice green lawn to the edge of the drive.

Mr. Donald expressed surprise that more people in this favored climate did not have water gardens, and in response to his suggestion, considerable general discussion of the subject was started. Mrs. Dunbar, of Bonita, gave a graphic account of her efforts to have a large water garden and after a valiant fight had to give it over to the too prolific bullrushes. In smaller gardens, with a cemented bottom, it would probably be easier to control the rushes and give the water lilies a better chance. It was considered possible to have a water garden by digging into the hardpan, without cementing the bottom. Mrs. Hebbard's experiences had been very encouraging in water gardens.

At the close of the business meeting, the guests were served coffee, sandwiches and cakes in the dining-room and Mrs. Darling was assisted by a number of her Chula Vista friends.

The afternoon was most enjoyable and the thanks of the association are extended to the hostess for her very kind invitation.



# Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD

In spite of the warm weather in August, in fact because of it, I have been making flights of inquiry around San Diego. I wanted to know if after all the pow-wow, as to the making of gardens for the last four years in this magazine, the good people of the city knew the uses of that which they did, and I found that they certainly did not, in one particular at least. I expected to see every spreading tree and palm giving shade to the family that possessed it, hovering greenly over hammock and lounging chair, dropping its leaves and perhaps its spiders into tea cups and ice cream dishes, and even tolerating the eccentricities of fashionable bridge.

Where specially fine specimen trees grew, I looked for the neighborhood children and their dolls and toys, in fact I thought to find San Diego, at least that part of it that was not forcibly incarcerated within walls, out in the garden enjoying the warmth. I was wrong, absolutely wrong, no one was in the garden except they were caught passing through it and the multitude was on the streets in stiff collars and long corsets cussing the heat with the thermometer only at 80. Then it occurred to me that garden parties are the exception instead of the rule, and ever since I have been trying to fix the blame, for there is some one or something that is truly blameworthy. A great deal of the trouble undoubtedly attaches to the humans, all of it in fact, as a basic proposition, for they are back of the gardens. As an early bird I know that my sphere of influence is with plants and grubs and I don't pretend to bother with the salvation of man. I hope my sense of proportion is good enough to keep me from that. It is legitimate, however, for me to inquire whether our gardens lend themselves to true habitation and usage, or whether they are mostly advertising stunts. When this query formulated in my mind I looked at our gardens from the point of view it suggested and I was shocked to have to confess that I would not want to set out and "party" in five per cent of them, and when I asked myself why, the answer came in the form of another question, "Where would you do it?"

Of course the main trouble lies in the absurdly small lots on which we build, however that is an evil of the country and not confined to us, but it is to be hoped that an advance in hygienic prevention of disease and ease of vice control, to say nothing of beauty, will some time make it illegal to have dwellings touching elbows for miles at a stretch. The artificiality of our gardens is most marked. They are like our city plan, a gridiron with grass instead of asphalt and the trees and shrubs are placed like light and telegraph posts. They are absolutely just to look at. With a few honorable exceptions the newer gardens are the chief offenders. Some of the old places are delightful wildernesses, and that is what a real garden should be; a tamed wilderness that does not show the taming process too plainly. What are we going to do about it? you ask, or you ought to ask, but you won't. You like the formal grass plot that even the dog ought not to cross; the cement walks, the stiff beds, and the four cement urns painted to match the house. It is in such fine shape; no leaf out of place, and helps the selling value. When you want to sit in a real garden you will get it or the feel of it on a postage stamp. There is a part of the city filled up with little cottages that stand within reach of the street almost on twenty-five foot lots, and to sit in their garden the owners have to keep on the house steps; but they are there every warm evening and their one or two climbing roses, a solanum, even a climbing geranium, with its individual growth, gives the right feel and these cottages have a garden that is more worth while than acres of expensive bought-to-pattern formality.

## A PLAN TO COME.

In response to an invitation in the California Garden, of some months back, there has been received a request for a planting scheme for a garden on a small scale. Work is being done on this and it will probably appear in the October issue. It requires time to fit the Garden's ideas into the owner's wishes.

## Bulletins to Public Schools

The Garden is pleased this month to publish the first bulletin issued from the office of the County Superintendent of Schools, Prof. H. J. Baldwin, in connection with their agricultural studies.

We believe this co-operation will be of great mutual benefit, but to make the best use of it, The Garden should go into every home in each school district.

In order to come nearer to this ideal condition, we wish to secure an agent and correspondent in each district, to whom we will pay a liberal commission for subscriptions. If a class or individual pupils should wish to take this up as a means of raising class funds, to be used in their school activities, it would be a convenient and easy method, and would serve the purpose of spreading the knowledge this magazine is each month sending out.

This agent could also keep us informed of gardening and agricultural news in the district, which would give the various localities valuable publicity.

## Fall Flower Show

The Annual Fall Flower Show by the San Diego Floral Association will be held three days in October, sometime between the 15th and 25th, but the exact date cannot be fixed in time for this issue. In the meantime the show committee would like to hear from prospective exhibitors as to when their chrysanthemums promise to be at their best.

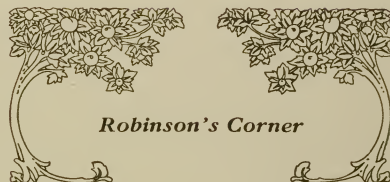
Arrangements are being made, and the show will undoubtedly be held in the McFadden-Buxton Arcade building, where the Spring Show was held so successfully. This begins to look like the greatest exhibition of chrysanthemums ever held in San Diego, and it will surely be, if every amateur and professional gardener takes part. Remember, it isn't even necessary to belong to the association to exhibit, and the show is by no means limited to 'mums.

### "Garden Helps" \$1.00

Hall's book "Garden Helps" dealing with gardening in Southern California, on sale at this office, price \$1.00. California Garden, one year, and a copy of "Garden Helps" both for \$1.75.

See Page 14 for notice of September meeting. You're invited.

## What *he* said & what *we* think about it



We were recently talking to a man who had long filled a public place among us, and had mentioned that our views differed from the generality. He commented "Very few people can afford to have views in San Diego." If he had said "chickens", his meaning would have been clearer.

As we are curious to know how others regard this cryptic utterance, we offer for the best interpretation, a setting of our best Barred Plymouth Rock Eggs, that probably won't hatch, as the ladies are just in that stage when they positively haven't a thing to wear. If fine feathers make fine birds some of the Rosecroft ones are not so much as we think.

Our string goes to the State Fair, and regarding the meagre response to our last month's appeal for buyers to provide the necessary funds, we echo—"Very few people can afford to have chickens in San Diego."

However we have all kinds but poor kinds for sale at

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